## REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 7 are pending. Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the support consists essentially of nylon. Support for the amendment can be found in the specification at, for example, Examples 1-3 at paragraphs 126-140.

**Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claims 1-3 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hillegas et al. (US Patent 6,214,618 B1) in view of Ferrari et al. (US Patent 6,184,348 B1) and Aerts et al. (WO2004/078955 A1). According to the Examiner, Hillegas teaches methods of producing herpes virus comprising adhering cells to a microcarrier comprising multiple copies of the cell attachment ligand Arg Gly Asp (RGD), culturing the adhesive cells in a medium free of animal origin components, subculturing the cells using cell dispersing agents such as EDTA and tyrpsin, and inoculating and proliferating the virus in the cells. The Examiner acknowledges that Hillegas does not teach the sequence Gly Ala Gly Ala Gly Ser (GAGAGS), the number-average molecular weight, and that the protease originated from a plant. The Examiner states that Ferrari teaches GAGAGS and RGD in a tandem repeat, the molecular weight to GAGAGS and GRD polymers, and that GAGAGS and RGD are cell growth and attachment factors. Ferrari does not teach protease originated from a plant or a genetically recombinant bacteria. The Examiner states that Aerts teaches methods a method producing a virus in animal-free cell culture comprising seeding the cells in cells culture medium free of animal components and letting the cells to adhere to the substrate, detaching the cells for the substrate using cell dispersing agent free from animal components such as protease originated from a plant or genetically recombinant bacteria, proliferating the virus, and growing the cells in the culture medium.

The instant claims as amended require a support consisting essentially of nylon. Such a support is not taught in any combination of the cited references. Further, the comparative examples in the instant specification show that a support consisting essentially of nylon has unexpected benefits relative to other supports in terms of cell density, stable and efficient cell growth, and growth of virus. See, specification at paragraphs 126-140.

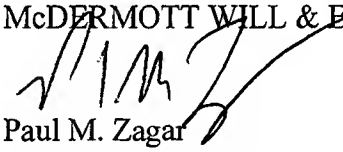
In accordance with the above, Applicants respectfully request that all rejections based on Hillegas, Ferrari, and Aerts be withdrawn.

## Conclusion

This amendment is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. If any issues remain which may be addressed by an Examiner's or supplementary amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

McDERMOTT WILL & EMERY LLP



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